

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HAVANA 01026 211922Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 HA-05 ACDA-12 /095 W
-----000594 212029Z /50

P R 211505Z APR 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1680
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HAVANA 1026

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV MILI ET SO CU
SUBJ: POLITBURO MEMBER SPEAKS ON BAY OF PIGS ANNIVERSARY

1. POLITBUR MEMBER PEDRO MIRET, APRIL 20, DELIVERED
KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT CEREMONY MARKING SEVENTEENTH ANNIVERSARY
OF BAY OF PIGS INVASION. CEREMONY WAS NOT ATTENDED BY
FIDEL CASTRO NOR OTHER PROMINENT FIGURES (OTHER THAN POLITBURO
MEMBER ARMANDO HART). SPEECH AVOIDED HARANGUES AGAINST PAST OR
PRESENT US LEADERS AND CUBAN EXILES, AND TOOK ALMOST DETACHED
VIEW OF INVASION BY PORTRAYING IT AS PRODUCT OF INEVITABLE
HISTORICAL CONTRADICTIONS THAT AROSE WITHIN CUBA AND
BETWEEN CUBA AND US AS RESULT OF 1959-1961 REVOLUTIONARY
PROCESS. UPSHOMOF MARXIST HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION
OFFERED UP BY MIRET IS THAT US LEADERS AND CUBAN EXILES
ARE PORTRAYED LESS AS EVIL-DOERS IN THEIR OWN RIGHT, THAN
AS FORCED PARTICIPANTS IN HISTORICAL PROCESS BEYOND THEIR
CONTROL.

2. SPEECH, HOWEVER, MOVES ON TO LINK CUBAN EFFORT AGAINST
IMPERIALISM AT BAY OF PIGS WITH CURRENT CUBAN "INTERNATIONALIST"
EFFORTS IN AFRICA. WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO US,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HAVANA 01026 211922Z

MIRET REITERATES FAMILIAR POSITION THAT CUBA WILL NOT
NEGOTIATE OVER ITS INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA. THEN, TURNING
TO UPCOMING CASTRO-MENGISTU MEETING, MIRET SAYS THAT CUBANS
AND ETHIOPIANS SHARE SAME "ENEMY", "CAUSE", "IDEOLOGY", AND
"COMBAT PHILOSOPHY". MOREOVER, HE SAYS WITH RELISH HOLDING OF
MENGISTU-CASTRO MEETING HERE IN HAVANA "UNDER THE BEARD"
OF THE "IMPERIALISTS" WILL PROVE EXTREMELY IRRITATING TO THEM.

3. COMMENT: FIRST PART OF MIRET'S SPEECH STRIKES US AS CAREFULLY CRAFTED EFFORT TO AVOID DIRECTLY ATTACKING US AND EXILES ON OCCASION WHEN MUCH MORE VICIOUS HARANGUE COULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. SECOND PART COMPENSTATES TO SOME EXTENT FOR THIS RESTRAINT BY FLAUNTING CUBA'S CURRENT REVOLUTIONARY AVOCATION IN AFRICA AND ITS TOTAL SUPPORT FOR MENGISTU, BUT WITHOUT DIRECTLY ATTACKING US POLICY AND WITHOUT SPELLING OUT NATURE OF FUTURE SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA (FOR EXAMPLE, IN ERITREA).

4. CUBAN PRESS HAS BEGUN WHIPPING UP MASSIVE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN IN CONNECTION WITH MENGISTU VISIT (TWO WHOLE PAGES OF GRANMA, APRIL 20, ARE DEVOTED TO ETHIOPIA). MIRET'S GUSHING PRAISE FOR ETHIOPIA, AND HIS REMARKS TWITTING U.S. ABOUT CASTRO-MENGISTU MEETINGSV ARE NOT UNEXPECTED ON EVE OF WHAT CUBANS WILL WISH TO PORTRAY AS VIRTUAL REVOLUTIONARY "LOVE FEAST" BETWEEN ADDIS AND HAVANA. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THERE SEEMS TO BE ELEMENT OF RITUALISTIC "LEFTISM" IN MIRET'S REMARKS WHICH MAY BE INTENDED TO COVER UP AND BALANCE CUBAN EFFORT TO AVOID DIRECT MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN ERITREA AND TO PUSH MENGISTU TOWARD POLITICAL APPROACH TO THIS PROBLEM (SEE HAVANA 980 AND 966).

LANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES, BAY OF PIGS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HAVANA01026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780171-0695
Format: TEL
From: HAVANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780432/aaaabaqo.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ee20efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2895476
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITBURO MEMBER SPEAKS ON BAY OF PIGS ANNIVERSARY
TAGS: PDEV, MILI, ET, SO, CU, (MIRET, PEDRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ee20efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014